

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A recording medium drive unit, comprising:
  - an insertion part defining an insertion opening through which a recording medium is inserted;
  - a holder ~~receiving~~ configured to receive the recording medium inserted through the insertion opening;
  - a first connector configured to be connected to a second connector on an insertion side of the recording medium;
  - ~~a holder drive part moving the holder to a loading position so that the recording medium is connected to the connector; and~~
  - a clamp mechanism ~~pressing opposing sides~~ configured to guide the insertion side of the recording medium when the recording medium is inserted into the holder, the clamp mechanism being provided to a side of predetermined position in the holder so as to be slidable thereon,
  - ~~wherein the clamp mechanism holds the recording medium by the opposing sides thereof; and~~
  - a holder drive part configured to move the holder to a loading position at which the second connector is connected to the first connector.
2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A recording medium drive unit ~~as claimed in claim 1,~~ comprising:
  - an insertion part defining an insertion opening through which a recording medium is inserted;
  - a holder configured to receive the recording medium inserted through the insertion opening;
  - a connector;
  - a holder drive part configured to move the holder to a loading position at which the recording medium is connected to the connector; and

~~wherein the~~ a clamp mechanism comprises configured to be slidable on the holder,  
the clamp mechanism including an engagement member,~~the engagement member~~  
engaging to be engaged with ~~recesses provided to the~~ on ~~opposing sides of the recording~~  
medium in conjunction with the insertion of ~~as~~ the recording medium is inserted ~~into the~~  
holder, the clamp mechanism controlling an escaping operation of the engagement  
member as the holder moves ~~and to release engagement with the recesses as the holder~~  
moves in an ejection direction of the recording medium.

3. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A ~~recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 1,~~  
comprising:

an insertion part defining an insertion opening through which a recording medium  
is inserted;

a holder configured to receive the recording medium inserted through the insertion  
opening;

a connector;

a holder drive part configured to move the holder to a loading position at which the  
recording medium is connected to the connector; and

a clamp mechanism configured to be slidable on the holder, and to hold the  
recording medium as the recording medium is inserted into the holder,

wherein the holder drive part comprises:

a motor rotatable in forward and reverse directions;

a detection switch ~~detecting~~ configured to detect ~~insertion of the recording medium~~  
~~in an insertion direction into~~ to a clamp position inside the holder at which the recording  
medium is held by the clamp mechanism;

a transmission mechanism ~~transmitting~~ configured to transmit ~~a rotational driving~~  
~~force of the motor to the holder; and~~

a control part ~~starting~~ configured to rotate ~~the motor in a forward direction based~~  
~~on a detection signal output from the detection switch, the control part stopping and to~~  
stop ~~forward rotation of the motor when the holder and the recording medium held by the~~  
~~clamp mechanism reach~~ reaches ~~the loading position.~~

4. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:  
an ejection detection member detecting an ejection operation; and  
an initial position detection part detecting that the holder is in an initial position,  
wherein the control part rotates the motor in the reverse direction based on a signal  
output from the ejection detection member so that the recording medium is transported in  
an ejection direction to be ejected, the control part stopping rotating the motor based on  
the detection by the initial position detection part.

5. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 4, wherein the control  
part controls voltage supplied to the motor, the control part applying high voltage to the  
motor and driving the holder in the ejection direction, the control part, after the recording  
medium is disconnected from the connector, constantly applying the high voltage to the  
motor so that the holder moves in the ejection direction.

6. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein the control  
part controls voltage supplied to the motor, the control part applying high voltage to the  
motor and moving the holder toward the loading position when the insertion of the  
recording medium into the holder is detected, the control part applying low voltage to the  
motor immediately before the recording medium is connected to the connector and  
moving the holder, the control part, after counting a predetermined period of time after  
starting applying the low voltage to the motor, applying the high voltage to the motor and  
moving the holder so that the recording medium is connected to the connector.

7. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 3, wherein:  
the holder is adapted so that each of a plurality of recording media having different  
sizes along the insertion direction is selectively insertable into the holder as the recording  
medium; and

the holder drive mechanism, irrespective of the size of the recording medium  
inserted into the holder, rotates the motor and draws the recording medium to an inside of  
the recording medium drive unit, the holder drive mechanism stopping rotating the motor  
when it is detected that an end of the recording medium in the insertion direction has  
moved to the loading position.

8. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 3, further comprising: a lid member closing the insertion opening; and

an opening and closing mechanism moving the lid member to a closing position to close the insertion opening or to an opening position to open the insertion opening as the holder moves,

wherein the opening and closing mechanism, when the recording medium is inserted, moves the lid member to the closing position in conjunction with movement of the holder toward the loading position if the recording medium is small in size in the insertion direction.

9. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 8, wherein the opening and closing mechanism, when the recording medium is inserted, moves the lid member out of a medium transportation path through which the recording medium passes, and causes an end of the recording medium in an ejection direction opposite to the insertion direction to close the insertion opening if the recording medium is large in size in the insertion direction.

10. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 8, wherein the opening and closing mechanism opens the insertion opening by moving the lid member out of the medium transportation path when the motor is rotated in the reverse direction to move the holder in the ejection direction by an ejection operation.

11. (original) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 3, further comprising: a lid member closing the insertion opening; and

an opening and closing mechanism moving the lid member to a closing position to close the insertion opening or to an opening position to open the insertion opening as the holder moves,

wherein: the opening and closing mechanism, when the recording medium is inserted, moves the lid member to the closing position in conjunction with movement of the holder toward the loading position if the recording medium has a first size in the insertion direction; and

the opening and closing mechanism, when the recording medium is inserted, moves the lid member out of a medium transportation path through which the recording medium passes, and causes an end of the recording medium in an ejection direction opposite to the insertion direction to close the insertion opening if the recording medium has a second size in the insertion direction, the second size being greater than the first size.

12. (currently amended) The recording medium drive unit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the clamp mechanism comprises a first and second parts holding one and the other of the opposing sides part engaged with one side of the recording medium and a second part engaged with another side of the recording medium so that the recording medium is held between the first and second parts of the clamp mechanism.

13. (original) A recording medium drive unit, comprising:

- an insertion opening through which a recording medium is inserted;
- a holder receiving the recording medium inserted through the insertion opening;
- a holder drive part moving the holder to a loading position or an initial position, wherein:

the holder is adapted to selectively receive, as the recording medium, each of a plurality of recording media having different sizes along an insertion direction in which the recording medium is inserted into the holder, and to have the recording medium attached to or detached from the holder substantially horizontally with respect to the holder; and

when the holder is driven to the initial position by the holder drive part and ejects the recording medium to be in a stationary state, at least an end of the recording medium in an ejection direction opposite to the insertion direction is positioned to project from the insertion opening if the recording medium is one having the smallest size, and the recording medium projects from the insertion opening with such an amount of projection as to prevent the recording medium from falling off the holder if the recording medium is one having the largest size.